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Tunis for Under Secretary Irwin.

Oil Situation Report No. 8 from State Dept Operations Center.

(OC/T: Please transmit the attached Situation Report No. EIGHT of the Oil Task Force to the above addressees.)

(17)

AFTED BY:	DRAFTING DATE	TEL. EXT.	APPROVED BY:
Oil Task Force			S/S-O: S.M. Holly

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TUNIS FOR UNDER SECRETARY IRWIN

OIL SITUATION REPORT NO. 8 FROM STATE DEPT OPERATIONS CENTER

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SITUATION REPORT NO. 8 AS OF 1500 HOURS EST, JANUARY 21, 1971

1. UNDER SECRETARY IRWIN'S MISSION

THE UNDER SECRETARY MET WITH AMIR SABAH OF KUWAIT YESTERDAY. BOTH THE UNDER SECRETARY AND THE AMIR TOOK POSITIONS SIMILAR TO THOSE TAKEN IN SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN. THE AMIR INDICATED THAT [redacted] B1

THE UNDER SECRETARY IS NOW IN TUNIS AND IS EXPECTED TO LEAVE TUNIS FOR WASHINGTON ON SATURDAY, ARRIVING AT ANDREWS AFB AT ABOUT 1 PM.

2. EASTERN FRONT; PERSIAN GULF STATES

WE HAVE RECOMMENDED TO THE COMPANIES THAT NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE IN TEHRAN ON THE BASIS OF THE BASIC OPEC DEMANDS AND THAT PARALLEL NEGOTIATIONS (REPRESENTING BOTH MAJORS AND INDEPENDENTS) BE OFFERED TO THE LIBYANS ON THE FOLLOWING BASIS: [redacted] B1

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[redacted] THE ALGERIAN PETROLEUM MINISTER HAS ALREADY ARRIVED IN TEHRAN. [redacted] B1

THE LAST INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE COMPANIES IS THAT THEY HAVE DECIDED TO STANDBY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE PROPOSAL APPROACH. HOWEVER, THEY DO NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITIES OF SEPARATE BUT CONNECTED NEGOTIATIONS WITH GULF COUNTRIES ON THE ONE HAND AND LIBYANS ON THE OTHER.

NO REPORT HAS AS YET BEEN RECEIVED FROM TEHRAN ON THE SECOND (JANUARY 21) COMPANY-OPEC MEETING.

3. OECD OIL COMMITTEE MEETING - CONSUMER GOVERNMENTS

THE HIGH LEVEL GROUP OF THE OECD OIL COMMITTEE MET YESTERDAY. THE MEETING, COMING AT THE TIME WHEN PROSPECTS FROM INTERNATIONAL OIL TRADE ARE IN A STATE OF HIGH UNCERTAINTY, FOUND CONSUMING COUNTRIES IN FULL AGREEMENT ON TACTIC OF COMMON APPROACH TO OPEC. [redacted] B1

[redacted] THERE WAS GENERAL SATISFACTION [redacted] B1 THAT THE PROCEDURE FOR CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION WAS WORKING VERY SATISFACTORILY.

[redacted] B1 IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE HIGH LEVEL GROUP AND THE OIL COMMITTEE WOULD BE CONVENED AT THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE NOTICE IF THE SITUATION WORSENED.

NOTE: ENI (ITALIAN NATIONAL COMPANY) HAS MEANWHILE ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL NOT SIGN THE INDUSTRY PROPOSAL. ROGERS